



Blaydon Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1972



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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
BLAYDON-ON-TYNE.

July, 1973.

Telephone:
Blaydon 2822.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Blaydon Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1972.

The year shows a natural population increase of 28 with an estimated population increase of 260.

The number of births and the birth rate, in the District, show a slight decrease relative to last year, as do the corresponding rates for Durham County and for England and Wales, the birth rate for Blaydon remaining the highest. The number of deaths and the death rate in the District have decreased, whilst the death rate for Durham County and for England and Wales have both increased. No deaths occurred from pregnancy or other maternal causes. The number of infant deaths notified was 6, the same as in 1971.

Again, cardio-vascular disease accounted for the greatest number of deaths totalling 176 out of 355. 89 people died as a result of malignant diseases and 9 fatal accidents occurred.

The total number of notified infectious diseases was 294, compared with 75 in 1971, due entirely to the marked bi-ennial increase in the number of cases of measles. Only 1 case of dysentery was recorded. One tuberculosis sufferer died and two cases were recorded as recovered and removed from the Register. Eight new cases were notified as arising in the District leaving a total on the Register at the end of the year of 91 compared with 86 at the end of 1971. Tables A to E on pages 29 to 31 give fuller details. No cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis, smallpox or typhoid have been notified since 1959.

As detailed in Section III of this Report, immunisation programmes were pursued vigorously with prophylaxis against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, rubella, smallpox, and tuberculosis. The same Section contains details of the operation in the District of the Blood Donor Panel and the mobile X-ray Unit.

Health Education has continued through the medium of Health Visitors and other nursing personnel and by the distribution by the Health Department of posters and pamphlets, particularly in relation to the supply of posters to food premises, and also to food handlers who are now much more conscious of their responsibilities. The standard of food premises has been shown, by inspections, to be satisfactory and no particular problems arose during the year. Some details of County Health Education work are given in the appropriate Section of the Report.

The good work of the County Council in the provision of residential accommodation under the National Assistance Act continued, the 3 hostels in the No. 1 Health Area being used to capacity.

As detailed in my Report, the four Luncheon Clubs at Chopwell, High Spen, Rowlands Gill and Winlaton continued actively. The Chiropody Service has been maintained at last year's level.

I would record, with appreciation, the enthusiastic and practical support this Council has continued to give to all welfare activities, and the untiring and unselfish efforts of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, the Old People's Welfare Committee and other voluntary bodies. Gardner Merchant (Caterers) Ltd., have, through their canteen at Churchill Gear Machines Ltd., supplied all meals required for the Meals on Wheels Service and our thanks are extended to them. The Service supplied 56 meals to recipients regularly twice a week.

No serious complaints were received regarding the physical and bacteriological quality of the water supplied by the two Water Undertakings. The supply was continuous and generally adequate and was being satisfactorily fluoridated by both supplying Undertakings throughout the year.

Practicable inspections, of food premises and of premises registered in accordance with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, continued to be carried out during the year and no major infringements were found. Advice was given to food traders regarding their responsibilities under food hygiene legislation and they were especially urged to pay particular attention to stock rotation to ensure that no date-expired food was displayed for sale.

The Council has continued the policy of giving grants to owner-occupiers and owners of tenanted properties to improve their houses with grant aid in an effort to preserve the life of older properties and to provide a standard of comfort and amenity almost comparable with that of a modern house. The introduction of the Housing Act, 1971, allowing increased grants, together with the nationwide publicity campaign, had the effect of substantially increasing the number of grant applications in the District.

The few remaining sub-standard houses in the Blaydon Ward are within the Comprehensive Development Area and are designated for compulsory acquisition under orders made by the Durham County Council. Considerable re-housing in connection with this has been carried out by the District Council.

During the year, the programme of smoke control areas under the Clean Air Act has been revised. It is now expected to have all premises in the Urban District subject to Smoke Control Orders by April, 1977.

The District is semi-rural, the largest built-up area being the wards of Blaydon and Winlaton, which are on the south-western fringe of industrial Tyneside. It is in this part of the District that the Council's smoke control activity has been concentrated to date, and, I may add, with some considerable success.

Despite an increasing awareness of the problems of land pollution by litter, discarded household articles, abandoned cars, etc., this man-made blight on the landscape still persisted in certain parts of the District.

Free tipping facilities are available to householders for the disposal of bulky household articles, garden refuse and waste materials produced as a result of building operations. Additionally, the Council arrange for periodic collections of bulky household refuse on application being made to the Health Department. This can only be effective in keeping the District tidy if the public co-operate by taking advantage of these facilities and using them to the maximum.

Progress in sanitary and health measures continued satisfactorily. I would thank members of the Health Committee and the Council for their co-operation and understanding which has helped greatly in my own task and made the Department's efforts the more rewarding. The willing co-operation, when required, of the staff of other Departments of the Council has been greatly appreciated.

The work of employees of the Health Department continued at a high level, the good relations existing within this Department having contributed very considerably to the very satisfactory standard which has been maintained. My thanks are due to all the Officers of the Department for their continued excellent work.

The helpful collaboration of the County Medical Officer and his staff and of the County Social Services Department, and their assistance when required, must be recorded with my thanks.

The Area Health Clerk, Mrs. Martin, continued to carry out her duties to the community in her usual efficient manner, her relationship with the public in connection with Personal Health Services, having been excellent. I am indebted to her for the collection and compilation of the detailed material in this Report relating to such Services and her assistance has been much appreciated.

My thanks go to all voluntary bodies and Organisations outside of Local Government who have done so much for the community and have collaborated so willingly in supplying me with information regarding their activities.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN A. DRYDEN,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES

Part of the northern boundary is the River Tyne from Derwent Haughs to Stella Haughs which is also the boundary between the counties of Durham and Northumberland. From Stella to where it joins Stanley Burn at the north-west extremity of the District, the boundary follows the line of Blaydon, Barlow and Coal Burns and separates Blaydon and Ryton Urban Districts.

The western boundary is formed by the Red, Clinty and Milkwell Burns. This is partly the County boundary and where this District adjoins Prudhoe Urban, Hexham Rural and Consett Urban Districts.

The south and south-east boundary is the River Derwent which enters the River Tyne east of Blaydon at Derwent Haughs.

ELECTORAL DIVISIONS AND WARDS.

The District comprises three County Electoral Divisions and four Wards as detailed below:

- (a) Blaydon East: The Blaydon Ward of the Urban District.
- (b) Blaydon Central: The Winlaton Ward of the Urban District.
- (c) Blaydon West: The Chopwell Ward and the Rowlands Gill and High Spen Ward of the Urban District.

Special Environmental Assistance Schemes are being progressed throughout the District. These will make these localities more pleasing to the eye.

(a) Blaydon East Division

Blaydon Ward—is situated on the south bank of the River Tyne and is both residential and industrial. Industrial development continues on the land lying between Shibdon Road and the River Tyne through the further expansion of existing industries and by the opening of new industrial projects. This land is scheduled on the Town Map for industrial purposes. Housing development, Council and Private, has taken place in the Division east of Shibdon Bank. Work on the re-development of Blaydon Central Area and the associated major roadworks commenced in 1972.

Estimated population: 7,478.

(b) Blaydon Central Division

Winlaton Ward—is situated to the south of Blaydon, and is preponderantly residential. The shopping development, known as The Garth, in the centre of Winlaton, is completed and the new shops have been allocated to tenants.

Estimated population: 11,560.

(c) Blaydon West Division

Chopwell Ward—Reclamation of several Pit Heaps has been carried out by Durham County Council, the area now comprising public open space, agricultural land, wooded areas and industrial sites.

Estimated population: 5,270.

Rowlands Gill and High Spen Ward—is centrally situated in the District, is semi-rural in character and is essentially residential. The Derwent Park Camping Site has enjoyed continued success to such an extent that a 3 acre extension has now been completed for use in 1973. The bowling green is now completed.

Estimated population: 8,022.

II.

STATISTICS

General

Acreage: 9.325.

Number of inhabited houses:

Council 5,176 Other 6,374 Total 11,550.

Number of Other Premises: 2,576.

Rateable Value: £2,501,512.00.

Vital.

Population: 1931—32,248.

1951—30,791.

1971—32,070.

1972—32,330.

Density of persons per house: 2.80.

Births: Comparability Factor: 0.99.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Live Births: | | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Number | ... | ... | ... | ... | 244 | 239 | 483 |
| Rate (per 1,000 population): | | | | | <i>Crude</i> | <i>C.F.</i> | <i>Adjusted</i> |
| Blaydon Urban District | | | | | ... | 14.9 | 14.8 |
| Durham County | | | | | ... | 14.8 | 15.1 |
| England and Wales | | | | | ... | 14.8 | |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Illegitimate Live Births: | | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Number | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | 11 | 23 |

Percentage of total live births: 4.77%.

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Still Births: | | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Number | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 2 | 10 |

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births: 20.28.

Total Live and Still Births: 493.

Deaths: Comparability Factor: 1.14.

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| Number | ... | ... | ... | ... | 190 | 165 | 355 |
| Rate (per 1,000 population): | | | | | <i>Crude</i> | <i>C.F.</i> | <i>Adjusted</i> |
| Blaydon Urban District | | | | | ... | 11.0 | 12.5 |
| Durham County | | | | | ... | 12.3 | 13.6 |
| England and Wales | | | | | ... | 12.1 | |

The commonest causes of death during 1972 were:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Ischaemic Heart Disease | 98 |
| Malignant Neoplasms at Defined Sites | 59 |
| Cerebro-vascular Disease | 42 |
| Respiratory Disease | 40 |
| Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc. | 27 (+3) |
| Other Forms of Heart Disease | 23 |
| Other Diseases of the Circulatory System | 13 |

Infant Mortality (deaths under 1 year):

| | <i>Male</i> | <i>Female</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Number | 2 | 4 | 6 |
| Mortality Rates (total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births): | | | |
| Blaydon Urban District | | | 12.8 |
| Durham County | | | 19.1 |
| England and Wales | | | 17.1 |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births... | | | 13.0 |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births | | | 0.0 |
| Neo-Natal Mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)... | | | 8.3 |
| Early Neo-Natal Mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births) | | | 6.2 |
| Perinatal Mortality (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ... | | | 26.4 |

Causes of Infant Deaths:

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Birth injury | 2 |
| Congenital anomalies | 2 |
| Perinatal mortality | 1 |
| Pneumonia | 1 |

Maternal Mortality (including abortion):

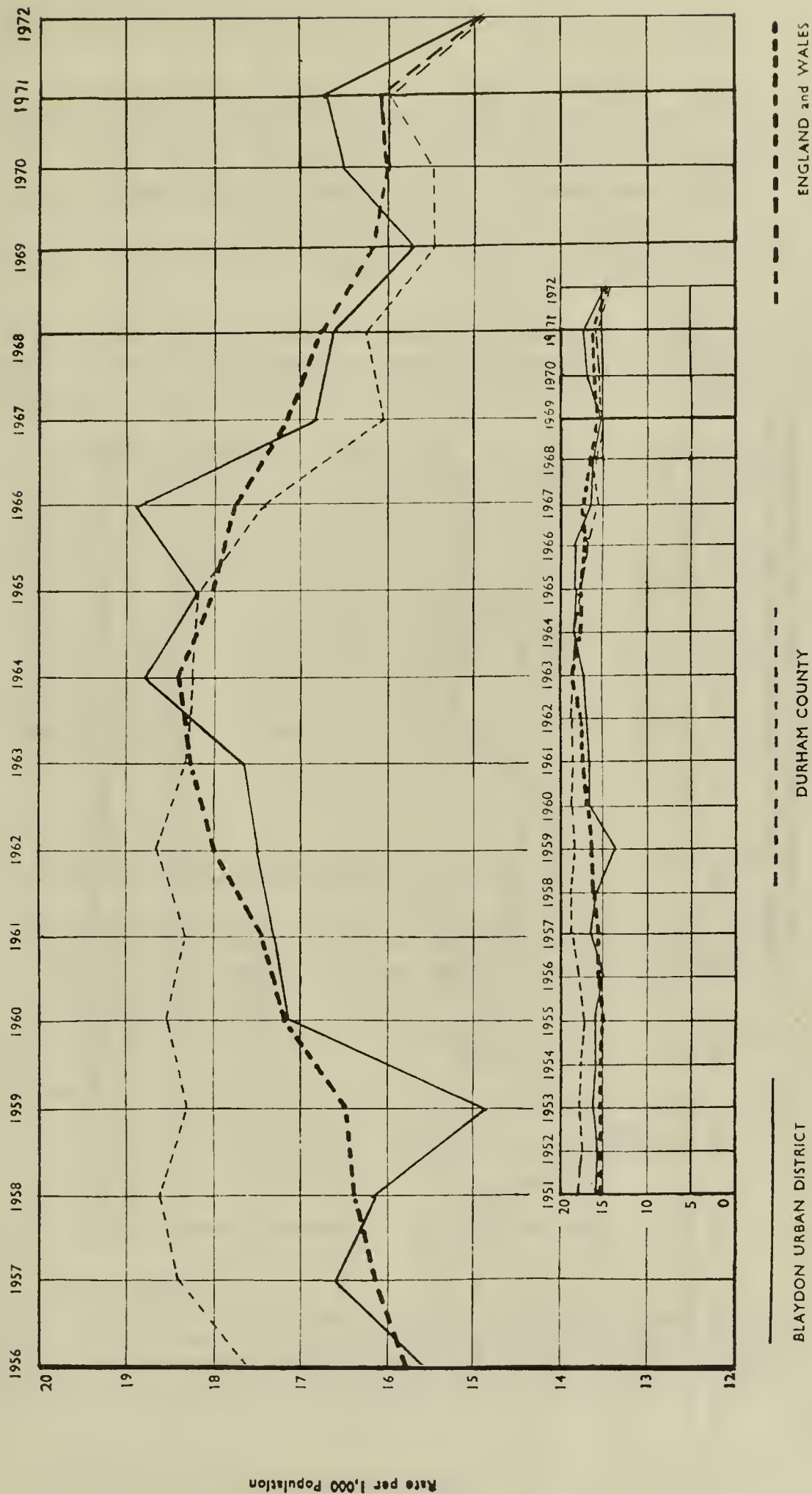
| | |
|---|------|
| Number of deaths | Nil |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births | 0.00 |

The natural population increase for the year, *i.e.* the excess of births over deaths, was 128.

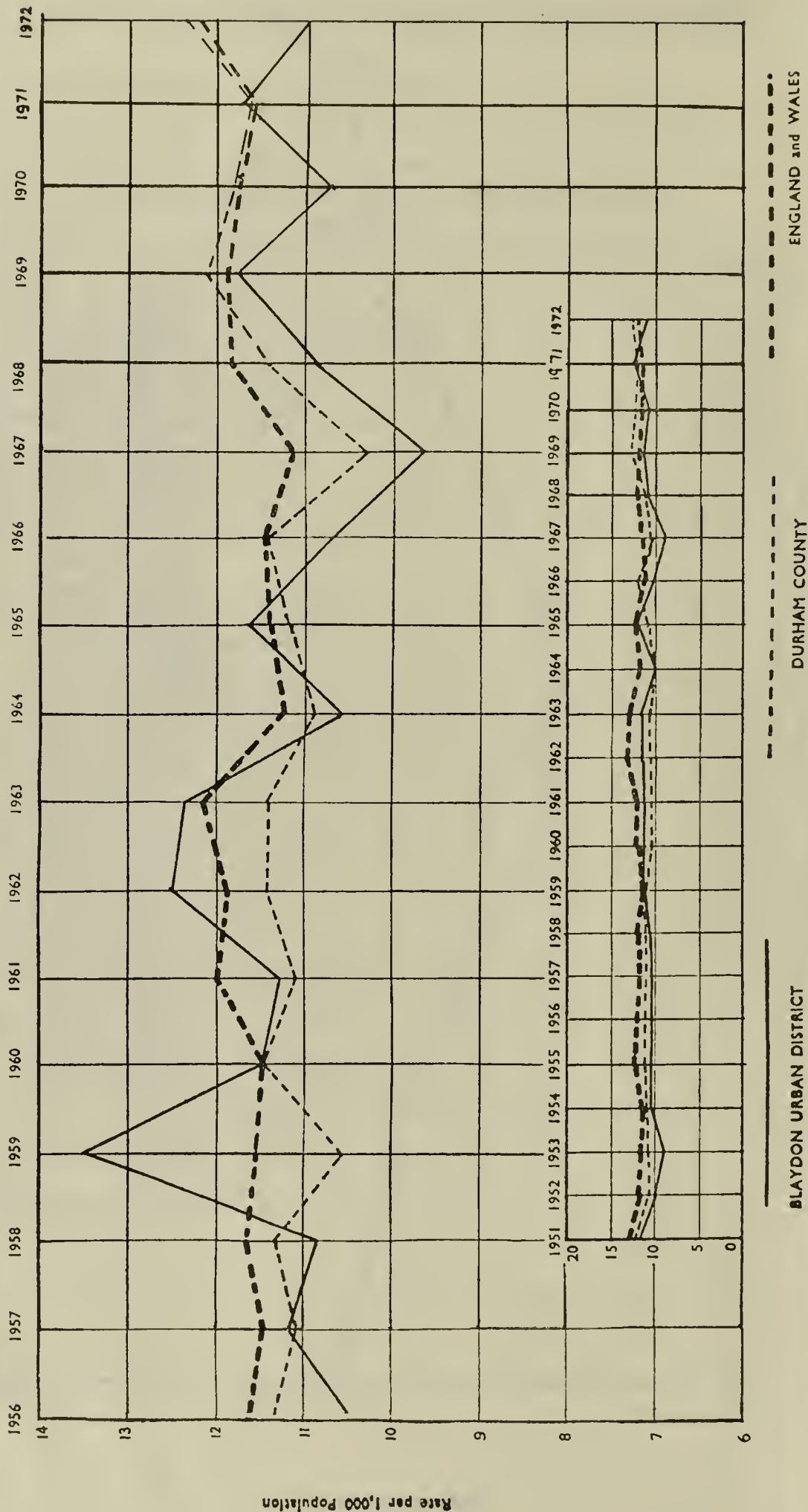
**The Registrar General's Short List of Causes of Death
during 1972.**

| Cause of Death | | Male | Female | Total |
|----------------|---|------|--------|-------|
| B5 | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | 1 | — | 1 |
| B19 (1) | Malignant Neoplasm—Buccal Cavity, etc. | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B19 (2) | Malignant Neoplasm—Oesophagus | — | 2 | 2 |
| B19 (3) | Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach..... | 5 | 4 | 9 |
| B19 (4) | Malignant Neoplasm—Intestine | 4 | 4 | 8 |
| B19 (16) | Malignant Neoplasm—Lung, Bronchus | 24 | 2 | 26 |
| B19 (7) | Malignant Neoplasm—Breast | — | 4 | 4 |
| B19 (8) | Malignant Neoplasm—Uterus | — | 2 | 2 |
| B19 (9) | Malignant Neoplasm—Prostate | 5 | — | 5 |
| B19 (10) | Leukaemia | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B19 (11) | Other Malignant Neoplasms | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| B20 | Benign and unspecified neoplasms | — | 1 | 1 |
| B21 | Diabetes mellitus | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| B23 | Anaemias | 1 | — | 1 |
| B46 (4) | Multiple Sclerosis | — | 1 | 1 |
| B46 (5) | Other diseases of nervous system | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| B36 | Chronic rheumatic heart disease | — | 6 | 6 |
| B27 | Hypertensive disease..... | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| B28 | Ischaemic heart disease | 55 | 43 | 98 |
| B29 | Other forms of heart disease | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| B30 | Cerebro-vascular disease | 16 | 26 | 42 |
| B46 (6) | Other diseases of circulatory system | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| B31 | Influenza..... | — | 1 | 1 |
| B32 | Pneumonia | 10 | 6 | 16 |
| B33 (1) | Bronchitis and Emphysema..... | 16 | 3 | 19 |
| B33 (2) | Asthma | 2 | — | 2 |
| B46 (7) | Other diseases of respiratory system | 2 | — | 2 |
| B34 | Peptic ulcer | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B36 | Intestinal obstruction and hernia | — | 1 | 1 |
| B37 | Cirrhosis of Liver | 2 | — | 2 |
| B46 (8) | Other diseases of digestive system | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B38 | Nephritis and Nephrosis | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| B39 | Hyperplasia of Prostate | 1 | — | 1 |
| B46 (9) | Other diseases of genito-urinary system | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| B41 | Other complications of pregnancy, etc. | — | 1 | 1 |
| B46 (11) | Diseases of musculo-skeletal system | 1 | — | 1 |
| B42 | Congenital Anomalies | — | 5 | 5 |
| B43 | Birth, injury, difficult labour, etc. | 2 | — | 2 |
| B44 | Other causes of perinatal mortality | — | 1 | 1 |
| B45 | Symptoms and ill-defined conditions | — | 2 | 2 |
| BE47 | Motor vehicle accidents | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| BE48 | All other accidents | — | 6 | 6 |
| Totals | | 190 | 165 | 355 |

Graph comparing Crude Birth Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951 (inset).



Graph comparing Crude Death Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1951 (inset).



Immunisation against poliomyelitis is available, free of charge, for unprotected persons under forty years of age and not less than six months old on the date of application, for expectant mothers and for certain other specified persons, on application to General Medical Practitioners, to the County Health Department in Durham, to the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres. Protection is now by oral vaccine.

Yearly schemes are arranged by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the immunisation at school of school children against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained, free of charge, on application to any General Medical Practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service General Practitioner Service; and, for children, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis may be carried out, in appropriate circumstances, by the Chest Physician at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. The vaccination with B.C.G. of all non-immune school children over eleven years of age is carried out yearly by the Assistant County Medical Officer for the Area.

Vaccination against measles, for susceptible children under the age of 15 years, can be obtained on request from General Medical Practitioners and, for children under 5 years, also at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Vaccination against Rubella was arranged for girls in the 11-13 year age group and carried out by Medical Officers of the County Council at schools; or by General Practitioners at their surgeries.

Statistics of immunisations and vaccinations carried out in the District are given in Part IV of this Report.

(g) Ambulance Service.

The Durham County Council Health Department controls and provides the ambulance facilities for the Administrative County.

All requests for an ambulance should be made to the Message Receiving Centre at the Ambulance Headquarters Control, Framwellgate Moor, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 4488) which is responsible for such service to the No. 1 Health Area. Messages will be received there at anytime as the Centre is always open.

A 24 hour Depot at Winlaton deals, on instructions from Durham, with routine work of the service.

Details of the work carried out in respect of No. 1 Health Area are given below:

| <i>Stretcher Cases</i> | <i>Sitting Cases</i> | <i>Journeys</i> | <i>Miles</i> |
|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 3,606 | 29,946 | 7,029 | 207,061 |

(h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons.

(i) Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment for sick persons is provided, by Durham County Council, on request through General Medical Practitioners, District Nurses or Hospital Almoners. Invalid chairs are also available; and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis.

The under-listed items of equipment can be so supplied.

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Adult Cots | Chairs (Push) | Fracture Boards |
| Air Rings | Chairs (Junior-Push) | Junior Spinal Carriages |
| Bed Cages | Chairs (Rim-Driven) | Leg Rests |
| Bed Packs | Commodes | Lifting Poles |
| Bedpans | Dunlopillo Cushions | Mattresses (Sorbo) |
| Bedrests | Eneuresis Sets | Rubber Sheeting |
| Bedsteads (Iron) | | Urinals |

(ii) Convalescent Homes

Limited accommodation is available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies and by the County Council; information regarding this can be obtained from the County Social Services Department.

Chiropody Service

As part of its responsibilities as the Local Health Authority for the District, the County Council finances the Chiropody Service run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service. The actual chiropody treatment is carried out by qualified chiropodists and all residents of pensionable age and handicapped persons approved by the County Council, are eligible for this service should they require it. Details of this service are set out on page 22.

Cervical Cytology

Throughout the County, sessions are arranged as the demand justifies. Although no sessions were held in No. 1 Health Area, 14 residents of the District attended sessions held at Consett. These tests are also now available at Family Planning Association Clinics throughout the County, and are free of charge in most cases. The nearest Family Planning Clinics are at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Axwell Park, Blaydon and Grange Road, Ryton.

(i) Home Help Services.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is needed because of the presence of any person who is an expectant mother, lying-in, aged or a child not over school age. Requests for the services of a Home Help can be made to the Assistant Organiser for the District, Mrs. Colson. Anyone wishing to contact her can do so at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, Axwell Park, Blaydon (Tel. No. Blaydon 3364) between 8.30 and 9.30 a.m. and between 4.0 and 5.0 p.m. daily.

Details of work undertaken by the Home Help Service in No. 1 Health Area during the year are given below.

| | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Number of cases at 1/1/72 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 841 |
| New cases served during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 246 |
| Total number of cases served during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,087 |
| Cases terminated during the year | ... | ... | ... | ... | 234 |
| Cases served at 31/12/72 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 853 |
| Number of Home Helps employed at 31/12/72 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 451 |
| Visits made by Assistant Organisers during year... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5,288 |

(j) Mental Health.

Under the Social Services Act, 1970, the Social Services Department is responsible for domiciliary supervision, care and after-care, of the mentally sick and the educationally subnormal.

An Adult Residential Training Centre for the Educationally Subnormal of the County is situated at Lanchester. Residents live-in from Monday to Friday of each week, returning home at the week-end.

For non-adults, a similar but non-residential Junior Training Centre is established at Consett. There is also, at Gateshead, a Day Centre for the Educationally Subnormal which can be attended by residents from Whickham, Dunston and Swalwell. There are two such Centres, the Junior Training Centre for boys and girls under sixteen years, and the Senior Training Centre for older boys.

Additionally, some educationally subnormal children from No. 1 Health Area continue to attend daily the Training Centre at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe.

Statistics are given below of the number of residents from No. 1 Health Area being cared for or supervised by County Council Staff as a responsibility under this Act.

| <i>Number of Persons registered as Mentally Subnormal</i> | <i>Number of Persons under Supervision</i> | <i>Number of Persons in Hospitals</i> |
|---|--|---|
| 248 | 173 | 75 |

(k) Other Community Care Services.

Details of staff employed in the District on this work can be obtained by reference to the Social Services Department at County Hall, Durham (Tel. No. Durham 64411).

(l) Health Education.

Under the Public Health Act, 1936, Local Health and Local Sanitary Authorities have power to arrange programmes of health education within their area of jurisdiction. Additionally, Local Health Authorities are further authorised in this respect in various sections of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The County Council Health Education Section continued to maintain a comprehensive service to all members of the community including General Practitioners, Health Department Staffs, Industry, Hospitals, Adult Organisations, Community Groups and Educational Establishments in the form of help and advice on Health Education Projects, Displays, Content of Talks, Health Education topics and specific campaigns as required.

Increasing use was made by persons in the Districts of the visual aid resources available from the Health Education Section; these include such equipment as projectors and screens as well as films, slides, tape recordings, photographs, flannel-graphs, posters and pamphlets.

Additionally, every two months, material is published on a particular topic and issued to all the Child Health Clinics and to other members of the community on request. During 1972 such publications included the following subjects:—

- Coughs and Colds
- Child Development
- Hazards of Tobacco Smoking
- Food Hygiene
- Planned Parenthood
- Venereal Diseases

The material published for May/June and September/October formed part of two intensive County-wide campaigns on Cigarette Smoking and Family Planning respectively.

(2) Local Sanitary Authority.

The Local Sanitary Authority for the Urban District is the District Council, and the work carried out by the District Health Department is discussed in detail later in the Report.

(a) Meals on Wheels.

A Meals on Wheels Service, sponsored and financed by this Council with part financial assistance from the County Council and run by the Blaydon Branch of the Women's Royal Voluntary Service, was commenced on the 24th August, 1964. During the year, 56 residents of the District received hot meals twice per week.

Thanks are due to the Women's Royal Voluntary Service for the work carried out and Churchill Gear Machines Ltd. for the supply of meals and for their joint valuable co-operation.

(b) Chiropody Service.

The Chiropody Service, run by the Women's Royal Voluntary Service and financed by the Durham County Council, continued actively as last year.

Details of this Service, including statistics, are given below.

| Centre | Date of Opening | Number of Sessions per month | Persons over Pensionable Age | | Handicapped Persons below Pensionable Age | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| | | | Number treated | Number of Treat- ments | Number treated | Number of Treat- ments |
| Blaydon... | 5/5/65 | 3 | 110 | 313 | — | — |
| Chopwell | 24/5/65 | 4 | 100 | 356 | — | — |
| High Spen | 24/5/65 | 4 | 130 | 381 | — | — |
| Rowlands Gill | 12/1/66 | 8 | 181 | 824 | 1 | 7 |
| Winlaton | 3/5/65 | 10 | 300 | 947 | — | — |
| Winlaton Mill | 7/2/66 | 1 | 50 | 113 | — | — |
| Total number of persons treated | | | ... | ... | ... | 872 |
| Total number of treatments given | | | ... | ... | ... | 2,941 |

(c) Old People's Welfare Committee

This Committee continued actively throughout 1971 concentrating mainly on the finding of premises for the setting up of a Luncheon Club in Blaydon. Investigations are still continuing.

The Chopwell, High Spen, Rowland's Gill and Winlaton Luncheon Clubs have functioned extremely well, the average number of attendances per session at each being 30, 29, 50 and 52. These clubs have virtually been self-supporting.

Executive Council Provision.

The Durham Executive Council is responsible for the provision of the General Medical and Dental, the Pharmaceutical and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services for the District. Medical practices in the District are largely partnerships of two or more doctors.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS ACT, 1963.

Family Case Conferences.

It was not found necessary during 1972 to call comprehensive meetings of this nature, any cases being dealt with by individual officials of the County Council.

EDUCATION ACT, 1944

Local Authority.

The Durham County Council is the Local Education Authority for the Urban District.

School Health Services.

The School Health Services are provided by the County Council. These are the responsibility of the County Medical Officer who, as Principal School Medical Officer, carries out the requirements of the Act through his Deputy and staff. The services provide for systematic medical inspection, by routine attendances at schools of a Medical Officer, and for the medical and dental treatment of school children. Special School Clinics have been built—often a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre functions in the same building—where Medical and Dental Officers attend on a sessional basis.

When a child is found at medical examination to require specialist examination or treatment, arrangements are made, with the agreement of the parents and the family doctor, for the child to attend the appropriate hospital or clinic. Facilities are provided at school clinics for the treatment of minor ailments, defective vision, dental and speech defects. Special schools are provided for handicapped children who are educationally subnormal or delicate. When necessary, arrangements are made for other handicapped children to be placed in special schools maintained by other Authorities.

HOUSING ACTS, 1924-1957.

Aged Persons Accommodation.

The Council have continued, during the year, their policy of providing dwellings especially suited to the needs of aged persons.

The number of such dwellings, which have been erected since 1936, is as follows:

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Winlaton | ... | ... | ... | 292 |
| Rowlands Gill | ... | ... | ... | 131 |
| Blaydon | ... | ... | ... | 74 |
| Chopwell | ... | ... | ... | 67 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | <hr/> 564 <hr/> |

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948-51.

Section 21—Provision of Residential Accommodation.

Hostel accommodation is provided by the County in No. 1 Health Area at:

| | |
|---|---------------------------|
| Winton House, Parkhead Estate, Winlaton | Tel. No. Blaydon 2900. |
| "The Hermitage", Front Street, Whickham | Tel. No. Whickham 887372. |
| Tynedale House, Ryton | Tel. No. Ryton 2009. |

Residents of the District requiring such type of accommodation can be admitted also to any of the County Hostels throughout Durham County. Information regarding these can be obtained from the Assistant County Medical Officer.

At the end of the year, 87 residents of the No. 1 Health Area, were accommodated in Residential Part III Accommodation.

Section 47—Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention.

Although the Council are authorised under these Acts, in certain cases, to apply for compulsory powers to remove persons in need of care and attention, in most cases people are anxious to remain in their own homes. It has not been found necessary during this year to take such action. While there is increasing evidence of persons who are aged, infirm, living alone and in need of some degree of assistance, with the co-operation of the Home Help Service and the Welfare Department of the Local Health Authority, and of the Department of Health and Social Security, it has been possible to effect improvement in the welfare of these persons in their homes or by admission to Part III Accommodation on a voluntary basis. As a result, recourse to compulsory powers is rarely needed.

Section 50—Burial and Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary under this part of the Act.

IV. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

PREVALENCE.

The number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year was 294 as compared with 75 in 1971.

Table comparing Numbers of Notifications during the years 1971 and 72.

| | NUMBER OF CASES 1971 | | | | NUMBER OF CASES 1972 | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|----|-------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----|-------|-------------------------------|
| | Notified | | | Confirmed by Laboratory | Notified | | | Confirmed by Laboratory |
| | M. | F. | Total | | M. | F. | Total | |
| Acute Encephalitis ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Meningitis... .. | 3 | 3 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery | 5 | 12 | 17 | 17 | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| Infective Jaundice ... | 2 | 2 | 4 | — | 1 | 3 | 4 | — |
| Paratyphoid Fever ... | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Typhoid Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Anthrax | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Leprosy | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Leptospirosis | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | 4 | 2 | 6 | — | 131 | 128 | 259 | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | 2 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tetanus | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Yellow Fever | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| *Other Quarantinable Diseases | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever | 14 | 16 | 30 | — | 8 | 5 | 13 | — |
| Tuberculosis: | | | | | | | | |
| Respiratory | 6 | — | 6 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 7 | 7 |
| Meninges & C.N.S. ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| | 36 | 39 | 75 | 33 | 152 | 142 | 294 | 17 |

* The following are quarantinable diseases:

Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever.

Incidence of Principal Infectious Diseases since 1956

| Year | Scarlet Fever | | Diphtheria | | Typhoid and Paratyphoid | | Measles | | Whooping Cough | | Tuber- culosis | |
|------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|
| | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths | Cases Noti- fied. | Deaths |
| 1956 | 14 | — | — | — | — | — | 173 | 1 | 45 | 1 | 23 | 2 |
| 1957 | 13 | — | — | — | — | — | 575 | — | 60 | — | 20 | 3 |
| 1958 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | 16 | — | 55 | — | 18 | — |
| 1959 | 39 | — | — | — | — | — | 367 | — | 11 | — | 11 | — |
| 1960 | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | — | 3 | — | 18 | 7 |
| 1961 | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | 539 | — | 8 | — | 23 | 4 |
| 1962 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | — | 44 | — | 11 | 2 |
| 1963 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | 383 | — | 4 | — | 11 | 2 |
| 1964 | 14 | — | — | — | 2 | — | 73 | — | 1 | — | 10 | 5 |
| 1965 | 23 | — | — | — | — | — | 340 | — | 4 | — | 4 | 5 |
| 1966 | 23 | — | — | — | — | — | 146 | — | 12 | — | 6 | 9 |
| 1967 | 8 | — | — | — | 2 | — | 285 | — | 22 | — | 13 | 2 |
| 1968 | 13 | — | — | — | — | — | 417 | — | 16 | — | 11 | 5 |
| 1969 | 15 | — | — | — | — | — | 47 | — | 4 | — | 5 | 1 |
| 1970 | 35 | — | — | — | — | — | 183 | — | 19 | — | 9 | — |
| 1971 | 30 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 6 | — | 2 | — | 6 | — |
| 1972 | 13 | — | — | — | — | — | 259 | — | — | — | 8 | — |

Table of Infectious Diseases notified during 1972 showing Monthly and Ward Distribution

| DISEASES | | MONTHS | | | | | | | | | | | | WARDS | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|--------|---------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| | | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | TOTALS | Blaydon | Chopwell | Rowlands Gill and High Spennithorne | Winlaton |
| Acute Encephalitis ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Meningitis ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery ... | ... | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning ... | ... | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 3 | — | 2 | 2 | |
| Infective Jaundice ... | ... | — | — | 1 | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 1 | — | — | 3 | |
| Paratyphoid Fevers... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Typhoid Fever ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Anthrax ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Leprosy ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Leptospirosis ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Measles ... | ... | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | 101 | 58 | 21 | 1 | 12 | 50 | 9 | 259 | 56 | 2 | 91 | 110 |
| Whooping Cough ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tetanus ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Yellow Fever ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| *Other Quarantinable Diseases ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever ... | ... | — | 4 | — | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 13 | — | — | — | — | 13 |
| Tuberculosis: | | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Respiratory ... | ... | — | — | 1 | 3 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | 7 | 1 | — | 2 | — | 4 |
| Meninges & C.N.S. ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | ... | — | 5 | 2 | 7 | 11 | 105 | 62 | 21 | 2 | 14 | 55 | 10 | 294 | 61 | 3 | 96 | 134 |

* The following are quarantinable diseases:

Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever.

Table of Infectious Diseases showing Age Group Distribution during 1972

| | | | | Total Cases Notified | AGE GROUP | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| | | | | | Under 1 year | 1-2 years | 3-4 years | 5-9 years | 10-14 years | 15-19 years | 20-24 years | 25-44 years | 45-64 years | Over 65 years | Age Unknown |
| Acute Encephalitis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Meningitis | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food Poisoning | ... | ... | ... | 7 | — | 2 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 3 | — | — | — |
| Infective Jaundice | ... | ... | ... | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — |
| Paratyphoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Typhoid Fever | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Anthrax | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Leprosy | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Leptospirosis | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | 259 | 7 | 51 | 64 | 131 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Malaria | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tetanus | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| *Other Quarantinable Diseases | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 13 | 1 | — | 4 | 6 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Tuberculosis: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Respiratory | ... | ... | ... | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 4 | 2 | — | — |
| Meninges & C.N.S. | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Forms | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| Totals | ... | ... | | 294 | 8 | 53 | 68 | 138 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 2 |

* The following are quarantinable diseases:
Cholera, Plague, Smallpox and Yellow Fever.

Diphtheria.

No cases of diphtheria have been notified since 1954.

Dysentery.

One case of dysentery was notified during 1972 compared with 17 in the previous year. All were of the mild Sonne type and routine tests and supervision, to prevent spread, were carried out.

Food Poisoning.

Seven cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. 3 of the cases occurred in one family over a short period; the remaining 4 cases being unconnected in any way.

Routine measures to ascertain the source of infection in each case, were carried out without result. Full precautionary measures to prevent spread were instituted and were effective.

Paratyphoid Fever.

No cases of paratyphoid fever were reported in 1972.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases of poliomyelitis have been notified since 1959.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases of typhoid fever have been notified since 1952.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a decrease in the number of notifications of cases of scarlet fever, 13 being notified in 1972 compared with 30 in 1971.

Home treatment of this disease is practised where satisfactory isolation arrangements are possible, which obtained in all cases this year—no cases requiring admission to hospital.

Smallpox.

No cases of smallpox have been notified since 1930.

Tuberculosis.

Seven cases of respiratory tuberculosis and one case of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified. Detailed figures are shown in Tables A to E below.

It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to the employment in dairies of persons suffering from tuberculosis; nor was action necessary under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

**Table A. Cases Notified during 1971 and 1972
(including inward transfers)**

| Year | | Total | Blaydon | Chopwell | Rowlands Gill and High Spen | Winlaton |
|------|-----------------|-------|---------|----------|--------------------------------|----------|
| 1972 | Respiratory ... | 7 | 1 | — | 2 | 4 |
| | Non-Respiratory | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| | Totals ... | 8 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 1971 | Totals ... | 6 (1) | 1 | — | — | 5 (1) |

() shows number of inward transfers.

**Table B. Age group distribution of new cases notified
(including inward transfers)**

| Age Periods | NEW CASES | | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Under 1 year | — | — | — | — |
| 1-4 years | — | — | — | — |
| 5-14 years | — | — | — | — |
| 15-24 years | — | 1 | — | — |
| 25-34 years | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 35-44 years | 2 | — | — | 1 |
| 45-54 years | — | — | — | — |
| 55-64 years | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 65 and over | — | — | — | — |
| Age not known ... | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 4 | 3 | — | 1 |

Table C. Comparative Table of Registered Tuberculosis Sufferers.

| Sex | Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year 1972 | | Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at end of year 1972 | |
|------------|--|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| | Respiratory | Non- Respiratory | Respiratory | Non- Respiratory |
| Male ... | 42 | 5 | 45 | 5 |
| Female ... | 31 | 8 | 33 | 8 |
| Totals ... | 73 | 13 | 78 | 13 |

Table D. Removals from the Tuberculosis Register during 1972.

| Reasons | Totals | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
|---------------------------|--------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| | | Male | Female | Male | Female |
| Removed from District ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Recovered... .. | 2 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Deceased | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | 3 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 |

Table E. Tuberculosis Incidence, 1956-72.

| Year | URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL | | | | | | ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF DURHAM | | | ENGLAND AND WALES | | |
|------|------------------------|------|----|-------------|------|------|------------------------------------|------|------|-------------------|------|------|
| | Incidence | | | Attack Rate | | | Attack Rate | | | Attack Rate | | |
| | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. | R. | N.R. | T. |
| 1956 | 18 | 5 | 23 | ·592 | ·165 | ·737 | ·746 | ·116 | ·862 | ·701 | ·092 | ·793 |
| 1957 | 17 | 3 | 20 | ·559 | ·099 | ·658 | ·683 | ·116 | ·799 | ·644 | ·085 | ·729 |
| 1958 | 16 | 2 | 18 | ·522 | ·065 | ·587 | ·637 | ·097 | ·734 | ·586 | ·076 | ·662 |
| 1959 | 11 | — | 11 | ·358 | — | ·358 | ·509 | ·082 | ·591 | ·534 | ·062 | ·596 |
| 1960 | 17 | 1 | 18 | ·551 | ·032 | ·583 | ·497 | ·068 | ·560 | ·455 | ·061 | ·516 |
| 1961 | 20 | 3 | 23 | ·650 | ·098 | ·748 | ·438 | ·077 | ·515 | ·412 | ·058 | ·470 |
| 1962 | 9 | 2 | 11 | ·289 | ·064 | ·353 | ·444 | ·063 | ·507 | ·382 | ·057 | ·439 |
| 1963 | 8 | 3 | 11 | ·258 | ·097 | ·355 | ·363 | ·060 | ·423 | ·348 | ·055 | ·403 |
| 1964 | 8 | 2 | 10 | ·258 | ·065 | ·323 | ·332 | ·607 | ·399 | ·321 | ·054 | ·375 |
| 1965 | 4 | 1 | 5 | ·129 | ·032 | ·161 | ·263 | ·051 | ·314 | ·274 | ·053 | ·337 |
| 1966 | 6 | — | 6 | ·190 | — | ·190 | ·303 | ·036 | ·339 | ·256 | ·047 | ·303 |
| 1967 | 12 | 1 | 13 | ·376 | ·031 | ·408 | ·288 | ·207 | ·315 | ·228 | ·045 | ·274 |
| 1968 | 10 | 1 | 11 | ·311 | ·031 | ·342 | ·284 | ·033 | ·317 | ·220 | ·047 | ·267 |
| 1969 | 6 | 1 | 7 | ·188 | ·031 | ·219 | ·217 | ·040 | ·257 | ·198 | ·051 | ·249 |
| 1970 | 6 | 3 | 9 | ·188 | ·094 | ·281 | ·212 | ·041 | ·254 | ·194 | ·049 | ·243 |
| 1971 | 6 | — | 6 | ·187 | — | ·187 | ·193 | ·034 | ·227 | ·187 | ·053 | ·240 |
| 1972 | 7 | 1 | 8 | ·217 | ·031 | ·247 | ·219 | ·097 | ·316 | ·177 | ·049 | ·226 |

R—Respiratory. N.R.—Non-Respiratory. T—Total.

Attack Rate—Incidence per 1,000 population.

CONTROL.

Below are given statistics and information of the measures which have been taken for the protection against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Measles, Poliomyelitis, Rubella, Smallpox and Tuberculosis, of residents in the District.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

Protection can be given separately or jointly against each of these infections. Details of the work undertaken through health services in this District are given as follows.

Diphtheria

| | | | | | | Others | |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|---------|----------|-------|
| Children born in | ... | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965-68 | Under 16 | Total |
| Primary | ... | 388 | 86 | 45 | 41 | — | 560 |
| Boosters | ... | — | 1 | — | 411 | — | 412 |

Whooping Cough

| | | | | | | Others | |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|--------|----------|-------|
| Children born in | ... | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965-8 | Under 16 | Total |
| Primary | ... | 388 | 86 | 45 | 23 | — | 542 |
| Boosters | ... | — | — | — | 4 | — | 4 |

Tetanus

| | | | | | | Others | |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|---------|----------|-------|
| Children born in | ... | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965-68 | Under 16 | Total |
| Primary | ... | 388 | 86 | 45 | 41 | 17 | 577 |
| Boosters | ... | — | 1 | — | 414 | 10 | 425 |

Measles

Details of the number of vaccinations given during the year are set out below.

| | | | | | | Others | |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|--------|----------|-------|
| Children born in | ... | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965-8 | Under 16 | Total |
| | | 244 | 106 | 38 | 21 | — | 409 |

Poliomyelitis

Details of the number of primary vaccinations and booster doses given during the year 1972 are set out below.

| | | | | | | Others | |
|------------------|-----|------|------|------|--------|----------|-------|
| Children born in | ... | 1971 | 1970 | 1969 | 1965-8 | Under 16 | Total |
| Primary | ... | 389 | 88 | 45 | 78 | 16 | 616 |
| Boosters | ... | — | 1 | 2 | 434 | 3 | 440 |

Rubella.

187 schoolgirls in the 11-13 year age group were given protection against Rubella by the Area Health Services in schools and by General Practitioners at their surgeries.

Smallpox.

Details of the number of vaccinations and re-vaccinations given during 1972 are set out below.

| <i>Primary Vaccination</i> | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| <i>Under 1 year</i> | <i>1 year</i> | <i>2-4 years</i> | <i>5-15 years</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| 1 | 32 | 3 | 2 | 38 |
| <i>Re-Vaccination</i> | | | | |
| <i>Under 1 year</i> | <i>1 year</i> | <i>2-4 years</i> | <i>5-15 years</i> | <i>Total</i> |
| — | — | — | 19 | 19 |

Tuberculosis

B.C.G. Vaccination

Details of the programmes of B.C.G. vaccination carried out by the Area Health Services in schools in 1972 are given below.

| | | | <i>Number</i> | | <i>Non-Consents</i> | <i>Total in Age Group</i> |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | <i>Vaccinated</i> | <i>Heaf Positive</i> | | |
| Blaydon Comprehensive | ... | ... | 171 | 25 | 8 | 230 |
| Chopwell Secondary | ... | ... | 38 | 4 | 1 | 45 |
| Hookergate Secondary | ... | ... | 112 | 8 | — | 126 |
| Rowlands Gill Secondary | ... | ... | 64 | 2 | 3 | 79 |
| St. Thomas More Secondary | | | 64 | 5 | 1 | 83 |
| Totals ... | ... | ... | 449 | 44 | 13 | 563 |

V. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(A) Environmental Health Provisions.

1. Water Supply.

All the houses in the District are supplied with water from the Water Undertakings' mains. Part of the township of Blaydon is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. The remainder of the District is supplied by Durham County Water Board. Work on a new storage reservoir was nearing completion at the end of the year.

Routine samples for bacteriological examination were taken from the domestic supply of houses in each Ward. The results indicated that the water was of satisfactory bacteriological quality. No complaints were received regarding the physical quality of the water.

I am indebted to the respective Water Undertakings which have supplied the following information:

(a) Durham County Water Board.

The Board was responsible for supplies to 9,546 domestic premises.

Of the 40 samples taken to check the bacteriological quality of the water 82.5% proved to be satisfactory. All unsatisfactory samples were shown to be satisfactory upon re-sampling.

The natural fluoride content in the water supplied to premises within the Blaydon Urban District varies between 0.12 and 0.45 parts per million. Since the 8th September, 1970, the fluoride content has been artificially maintained at 1 part per million \pm 0.1 part per million.

(b) Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

The Company was responsible for supplies to 2,094 domestic premises.

A total of 1,036 works control samples from the Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's Laboratory during the year, all of which were satisfactory with one exception, which proved satisfactory after re-sampling. The 12 samples taken in the Blaydon Urban District were found to be of satisfactory bacteriological quality.

Fluoridation has been practised at the supplying filter since October, 1968, and the fluoridation content has been maintained at a level of 1 part per million.

2. Rivers and Streams.

The part of the River Tyne, which is bordered by the Urban District, and the tidal stretches of the River Derwent and Blaydon Burn are polluted. Otherwise there are no major sources of pollution to the rivers and streams in the District.

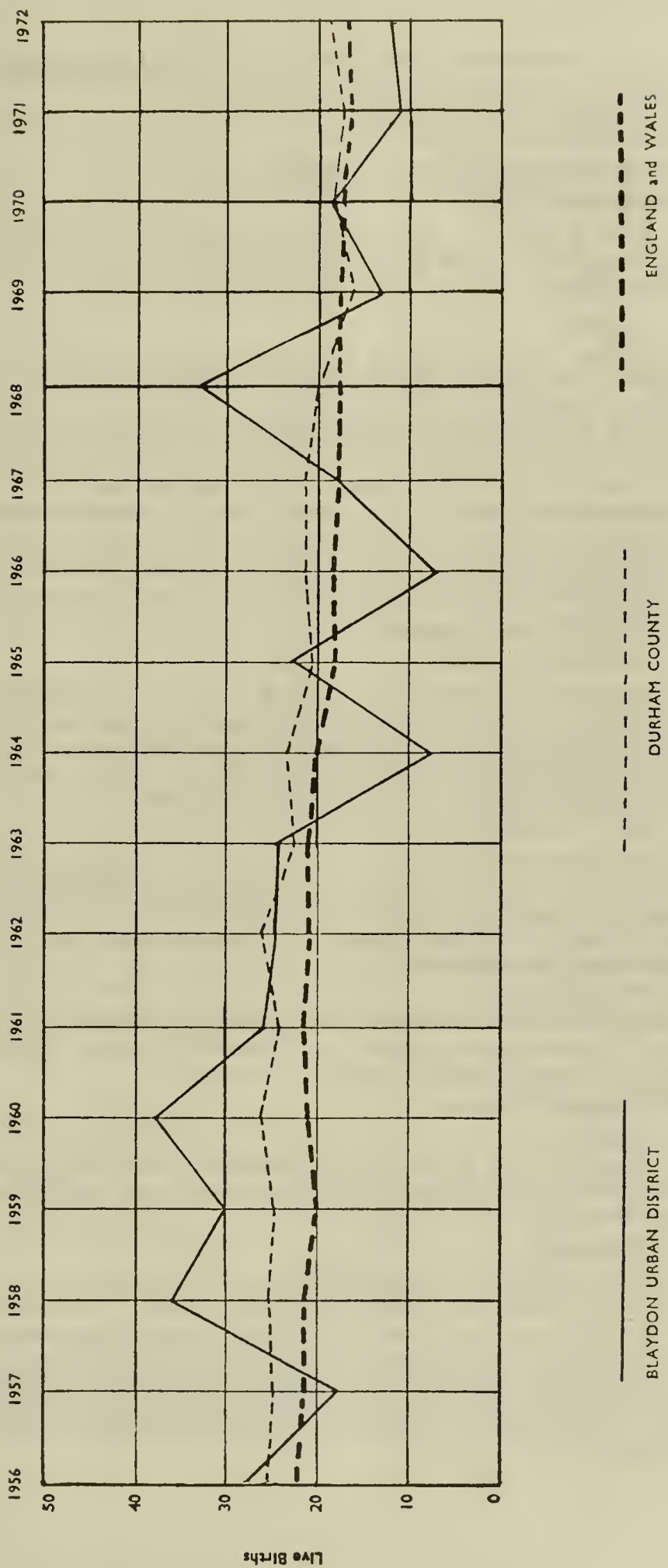
3. Closet Accommodation.

General improvement in closet accommodation standards in older houses, has continued with the aid of Standard Improvement Grants, 256 houses being provided with inside water closets.

The figures below show the number and types of closet accommodation existing in the District:

| | | | | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Water Closets | ... | ... | ... | 15,596 |
| Ash Closets | ... | ... | ... | 4 |

Graph comparing Infant Mortality Rates for BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT,
DURHAM COUNTY and ENGLAND and WALES, yearly since 1956.



III. PERSONAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, 1946
SOCIAL SERVICES ACT, 1970.

Hospital and Specialist Services Provisions.

(1) Hospital Services.

Hospital facilities for the District are provided by the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board through the North-West Durham and Gateshead Hospital Management Committees.

(a) General.

The Royal Victoria Infirmary and the Newcastle General Hospital, Newcastle, together with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead, receive the majority of medical and surgical cases from the District. In-patient treatment can be given at the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead, and in-patient and out-patient treatment for suitable cases is also obtainable at the Dunston Hill Hospital, Whickham. Some cases are also referred to and treated at the Hexham General Hospital, Hexham. The Whickham and District War Memorial Cottage Hospital, Whickham, undertakes the treatment of a limited number of medical and surgical cases. Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, has a bed capacity of 245 and caters for patients who are chronically sick, orthopaedic or geriatric in category.

(b) Midwifery and Gynaecology.

(i) Midwifery.

The majority of midwifery cases which require hospital treatment are sent to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, or the Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge, and, for out-patient treatment, to the Gateshead Children's Hospital, Gateshead, in-patient treatment being available at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead.

(ii) Gynaecology.

Cases of this nature requiring in-patient hospital treatment are sent to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital, Newcastle, the Bensham General Hospital, Gateshead, the Dunston Hill Hospital, Whickham, or the Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge. Out-patient treatment is available at the Gateshead Children's and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, Gateshead.

(c) Paediatrics.

There is a paediatric consultative out-patients' service at the Gateshead Children's Hospital. In-patients are admitted to Gateshead Children's Hospital and also to Ward 6 of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead.

(d) Infectious Diseases.

(i) Smallpox.

Provision is made at Langley Park Isolation Hospital for the isolation and treatment of cases of smallpox which, should such occur in the District, would be admitted thereto promptly.

(ii) Tuberculosis.

Provision is made for the hospital treatment of tuberculous patients in sanatoria throughout the counties of Durham and Northumberland. Normans Riding Hospital, Winlaton, is used as a sanatorium for both male and female patients. A central Chest Clinic is established in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. Residents from the southern part of the District are sometimes referred to the Shotley Bridge Chest Clinic. Early diagnosis of such sufferers, and their admission to hospital promptly thereafter, has now been achieved, resulting in a much improved prospect of recovery and complete cure.

(iii) *Venereal Diseases.*

Specialist treatment is available for these complaints at the Venereal Diseases Clinic, Newcastle General Hospital, where every effort is made to maintain secrecy and avoid attendance becoming generally known. General Practitioners are able to refer patients to the Clinic for necessary investigations and treatment.

(iv) *Other Infectious Diseases.*

Cases of other infectious diseases requiring isolation are treated at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead. In certain cases children can also be admitted to the Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle.

(e) **Mental Health.**

The Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester, provides 44 beds for the accommodation of the mentally sick.

Cases of acute or severe mental illness are normally admitted to St. Nicholas Hospital, Newcastle. Less severe cases can also be received there for care and treatment.

(f) **Convalescent Home.**

The establishment, situate in Ryton Urban District and formerly known as the Castle Hill Convalescent Home, is now styled the Country Branch Annexe of the Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary. It is no longer strictly a convalescent home and does not admit patients directly but only for pre or post Royal Victoria Infirmary treatment. There are 98 beds, 53 for women patients and the remainder for men.

(2) **Laboratory Services.**

The Public Health Laboratory Service for the District operates from the Public Health Laboratory, Pathological Institute, Newcastle General Hospital. By arrangement with the Durham County Council, all specimens for bacteriological examination are sent there by general practitioners, patients and Health Departments of the Local Authorities, and investigated and reported upon free of charge.

(3) **Blood Transfusion Service.**

The Regional Blood Transfusion Service has its Headquarters in the Newcastle General Hospital. It provides all necessary services for this District. It has a Donor Panel Department which organises and maintains Blood Donor Panels in each locality. In this District, during 1972, sessions were held as under. The figures show the strength of the panel on the dates listed, and the number of donations which were received on those dates.

| <i>Name of Panel</i> | <i>Sessions Centre</i> | <i>Date of Sessions</i> | <i>Strength of Panel</i> | <i>Total Attdnaces</i> |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Blaydon and district | Trinity Church Sunday School room, Shibdon Road. | 20th July | 212 | 120 |
| Chopwell and district | Methodist Church Hall, South Road | 26th June | 166 | 102 |
| Rowlands Gill and district | Community Centre Strathmore Road | 4th April | 235 | 118 |
| Winlaton | Winlaton New West End Club | 24th October | 235 | 126 |
| | | 15th February | 376 | 172 |
| | | 18th July | 376 | 118 |
| | | 29th August | 376 | 86 |
| | | 10th October | 376 | 61 |

(4) **Mass Miniature Radiography.**

The Mass Radiography Unit which serves this District is Unit 1A, which is based on the Newcastle General Hospital. Since April 1969, a Mobile Mass X-ray Unit has been sited, on Tuesday afternoons, on the waste ground, near Thomas Terrace, Blaydon.

to which General Practitioners may refer patients for chest X-ray without appointment. The general public also made use of it. The statistics for No. 1 Health Area (Blaydon, Ryton and Whickham Urban Districts) are given below.

| <i>Group</i> | <i>Number X-rayed</i> | <i>Referred to Chest Clinics</i> | <i>Tuberculosis Treatment</i> | <i>Supervision only</i> | <i>Neoplasm</i> | <i>Other Conditions</i> |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| Doctors referrals ... | 226 | 32 | — | 6 | 2 | 15 |
| General public ... | 348 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| Industry ... | 20 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — |
| Contact cases ... | 11 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total ... | <u>605</u> | <u>42</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>20</u> |

No sessions were held at industrial establishments in this Area during the year.

Local Authority Provision.

(1) Local Health Authority.

The Local Health Authority for the Urban District is the Durham County Council. It is responsible for the following, with the exception of * items:

Personal Health and Social Services.

- (a) Health Centres
- (b) Maternity and Child Welfare
- (c) Midwifery
- (d) Health Visiting
- (e) Home Nursing
- (f) Vaccination and Immunisation
- (g) Ambulances
- (h) Prevention of Illness; Care and After-Care of Sick Persons
 - (i) Nursing Equipment

* (ii) Convalescent Homes

* (i) Home Help Service

* (j) Mental Health

* (k) Other Community Care Services

(l) Health Education

* Administered by the County Council Social Services Department

Personal Health Services.

(a) Health Centres.

There are, as yet, no Health Centres within the meaning of the Act in operation in the District.

(b) Maternity and Child Welfare.

Clinics, where mothers and children may attend for dental and for maternity and child welfare services, are provided by the Education and Health Departments of the Durham County Council at various Centres throughout the District. Welfare foods are also distributed at these Centres. Sessions are held at centres in the District, where treatment is provided and welfare foods are supplied, as listed below.

| | <i>Address of Centre</i> | | <i>Sessions</i> |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Blaydon | Axwell Park Clinic, Shibdon Road | Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | Friday afternoons, alternate Tuesday afternoons. |
| | | Dental Clinic | Daily. |
| | | Distribution of Welfare Foods | Alternate Tuesday after- noons and Friday afternoons. |
| Chopwell | Trinity Methodist Church Hall | Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | } Alternate Monday afternoons. |
| | | Distribution of Welfare Foods | |
| Rowlands Gill | Miners' Welfare Hall | Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | } Wednesday afternoons and alternate Wednesday mornings. |
| | | Distribution of Welfare Foods | |
| Winlaton | Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | Tuesdays and Thursdays weekly. |
| | | Distribution of Welfare Foods | Tuesdays weekly and Thursday afternoons. |

Medical Officers attend certain sessions at Centres, information regarding which can be obtained at the appropriate Centre.

On the stated days, the Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are open from 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and from 1.30 to 4 p.m.; and the Centres for the distribution of Welfare Foods from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 to 4 p.m.

(c) Midwifery.

An expectant mother can have the services of any doctor who undertakes maternity work as part of the General Practitioner service organised by the Durham Executive Council. Ante-natal and post-natal care are available at some Local Health Authority Clinics. A domiciliary midwifery service is also provided by the County Council. Residents requiring this service should contact their own Doctor. The names of the District Midwives and the Doctors to whose practice they are allocated, are given below.

Medical Practice

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Mrs. I. Hall | Drs. Kelly, Cassels and Holiday. |
| Mrs. M. M. Hall | Drs. Jackson, Brewis and McLean. |
| Mrs. I. M. Harmer | Drs. Henderson, Hepburn and Fyfe. |
| Mrs. I. M. Harmer | Drs. Morrison, Rounding, Richardson and Banerji. |

(d) Health Visiting.

Health Visitors attend persons in their homes to give advice to aged or ill persons, to advise expectant and nursing mothers on the care of young children, and to stress the measures necessary to prevent the spread of infection. The names of the Health Visitors for the District, and the addresses and telephone numbers where they can be contacted, are given below:

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Address</i> | <i>Tel No.</i> |
|--|--|----------------|
| Miss S. Stafford | Child Welfare Centre, Axwell Park, Blaydon | Blaydon 3291 |
| Mrs. C. Whitfield (Part-Time) | Child Welfare Centre, Stanley | Stanley 2886 |
| Miss E. M. Pharoah } Mrs. M. Hall } | Child Welfare Centre, Hood Square, Winlaton | Blaydon 2071 |

(e) Home Nursing.

A Home Nursing Service is provided as the responsibility of the Local Health Authority. Any requests for this service should be made to a resident's own Doctor. The names of the District Nurses, and the Doctors to whose practice they are allocated are given below:

Medical Practice

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| Mrs. M. Bilclough | Drs. Jackson, Brewis and McLean. |
| Mrs. E. Wolfington | Drs. Jackson, Brewis and McLean. |
| Mrs. M. Peveller | Drs. Henderson, Hepburn and Fyfe. |
| Mrs. K. M. Chambers | Drs. Kelly, Cassels and Holiday. |
| Mrs. L. I. Auckland | Drs. Morrison, Rounding, Richardson and Banerji. |
| Mrs. M. G. Simpson | Drs. Morrison, Rounding, Richardson and Banerji. |

(f) Vaccination and Immunisation.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus may be obtained, free of charge, on application to General Medical Practitioners or at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

4. Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

The administration and supervision of this service is the responsibility of the Health Department. The removal, of household, shop and factory refuse, is carried out by direct labour.

The method of disposal is by tipping the refuse untreated on to three Council-owned sites at Blaydon, Stamperley Moss and Chopwell. These tips are open during normal working hours to receive any additional refuse which local residents have for disposal.

There are four refuse collection vehicles in regular use and one further vehicle is kept in reserve in case of a breakdown or repair and maintenance of the other vehicles. The refuse collection vehicles are as follows:—

- 1 — 50 cu. yd. Revopak.
- 2 x 35 cu. yd. S. and D. Pakamatic Compression Vehicles.
- 1 x 20 cu. yd. S. and D. Pakamatic Compression Vehicle.
- 1 x 16/18 cu. yd. S. and D. Fore and Aft Tipping Vehicles. (Spare).

At the end of the year, the refuse collection staff comprised 1 foreman, 4 charge-hand loaders, 4 drivers, 19 loaders and 2 refuse tip attendants.

This authority undertakes the removal of trade refuse from factory, office and shop premises, for which reasonable charges are made in accordance with the provisions of Section 73 of the Public Health Act, 1936. During the year, this service was extended to 198 premises at a cost, to the occupiers, of £850.

5. Drainage and Sewerage.

The 4 sewage treatment plants in the District are vested in the Tyneside Joint Sewerage Board which is responsible for their operation. The Council supplement disposal by operating and maintaining 5 sewage pumping stations. It is recognised that some of the plants are out of date and inefficient and the Tyneside Sewerage Board are endeavouring to remedy this situation.

Measurements of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide concentrations had to be discontinued owing to staff shortages.

Close liaison with the Alkali Inspector and the Health Department staff continued and strict surveillance of emissions from other industrial plant was observed and appropriate action taken if and when it became necessary.

6. Noise Abatement.

Several noise complaints were investigated during the year but it was not found necessary to institute any formal action.

7. Moveable Dwellings and Caravan Sites.

No caravan site licences were in operation under the appropriate Act.

8. Offensive Trades.

No establishments, defined as "offensive trades" under Section 107 of the Public Health Act, 1936, operate in the District.

9. Shops Act, 1950.

Having a population of over 20,000, this Council exercises powers under this Act

Visits were made to shop premises from time to time and it was found that the provisions relating to statutory closing hours were generally complied with by the occupiers.

10. Hairdressers and Barbers.

Routine inspections of the 18 ladies' and the 5 gentlemen's hairdressing establishments in the District were made throughout the year.

No contraventions of the Byelaws were noted with regard to premises, equipment and clothing.

11. Factories.

The number of factories on the Register at the end of the year was 146.

Twelve inspections were made for the purposes of provisions as to health. No infringements were found which required statutory action.

Certain contraventions, of Section 7 of the Factories Act, 1961, relating to sanitary accommodation, were brought to the notice of factory owners and, generally necessary remedial measures were taken.

12. Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common Lodging Houses in the District.

13. Licensed Premises and Clubs.

43 licensed premises were inspected regularly under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.

Once again, it was found that managers, licensees and club stewards recognised their responsibilities and obligations under the Regulations and, where minor infringements were found, they readily co-operated and took the necessary remedial measures. In no case was it found necessary to institute any formal action.

14. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

(a) Rodent Control.

| | | <i>Type of Property</i> | |
|----|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | <i>Non-Agricultural</i> | <i>Agricultural</i> |
| 1. | Number of properties in District | 13,442 | 56 |
| 2. | (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification | 244 | 4 |
| | (b) Number infested by: (i) rats | 7 | 4 |
| | (ii) mice | 36 | — |
| 3. | (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 352 | 10 |
| | (b) Number infested by: (i) rats | 8 | — |
| | (ii) mice... .. | 53 | — |

Sewers were treated twice during the year and post-baiting checks indicated that the sewers were relatively free from rat infestations.

(b) Insect Control.

All reported infestations were investigated; insecticides were issued and advice given on their proper use. Where major infestations occurred, the work of disinfection was carried out by staff of the Health Department.

The following table gives details of infestations dealt with during 1972:

| <i>Insect</i> | | | | | <i>Dwelling House</i> | <i>Other Premises</i> |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Bedbugs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — |
| Cockroaches | ... | ... | ... | ... | 97 | 3 |
| Centipedes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | — |
| Earwigs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| Fleas | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 2 |
| Lice | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 2 |
| Mosquitos | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | 1 |
| Clover mite | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | — |
| Spiders | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — |
| Wasps | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42 | 12 |
| Woodworm | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| TOTALS | ... | ... | ... | ... | 157 | 17 |

15. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

General inspections of 93 premises, to which the Act applies and in respect of which the Council is the enforcing authority, were made during the year.

While no major infringements of the legal provisions were observed, it was found necessary to verbally draw attention to minor breaches of the law and remedial measures were carried out by employers.

REGISTRATION

| Class of Premises | Number of premises registered during the year | Number of registered premises at end of year | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|---|---|--|--|
| Offices | 1 | 61 | 27 |
| Retail shops... .. | 1 | 151 | 62 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | — | 7 | 3 |
| Catering establishments open to public | — | 23 | 20 |
| Canteens | — | — | — |
| Fuel storage depots... .. | — | 4 | 2 |
| Totals ... | 2 | 246 | 114 |

Number of visits, by inspectors, to all kinds of registered premises: 236.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPEOPLE

| Class of Workplace | Number of persons employed |
|---|----------------------------|
| Offices | 365 |
| Retails shops | 357 |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses | 105 |
| Catering establishments open to public | 170 |
| Canteens | — |
| Fuel storage depots... .. | 21 |
| Total | 1,018 |
| Total Males ... | 509 |
| Total Females ... | 509 |

REPORTED ACCIDENTS

| Workplace | Number reported | | Total Number investigated | Action recommended | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| | Fatal | Non Fatal | | Prosecution | Formal warning | Informal advice |
| Office | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Retail shops | — | 3 | 3 | — | — | 3 |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Catering establishments open to public | — | 4 | 4 | — | — | 4 |
| Canteens | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Fuel storage depots | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | — | 7 | 7 | — | — | 7 |

ANALYSIS OF REPORTED ACCIDENTS

| | Offices | Retail Shops | Wholesale warehouses | Catering establishments open to public, canteens | Fuel storage depots |
|--|---------|--------------|----------------------|--|---------------------|
| Machinery | — | — | — | — | — |
| Transport | — | — | — | — | — |
| Falls of persons | — | — | — | 2 | — |
| Stepping on or striking against object or person | — | — | — | 4 | — |
| Handling goods | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Struck by falling object ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals ... | — | — | — | 7 | — |

16. Cinemas.

There are no cinemas operating in the District.

17. Disinfection of Houses.

Disinfection and disinfestation facilities are available for householders where infectious diseases occurred. The Department will fumigate premises where necessary

18. Mortuaries.

The District has one mortuary situated in a building in the yard of the Council Offices. Post-mortems, as required, are carried out in Normans Riding Hospital by arrangement with the Hospital Authorities.

19. Schools.

Close liaison continued between the Divisional Education Office and the Health Department on matters relating to infectious disease, sanitary accommodation, refuse disposal, food handling and pest infestations in schools throughout the District. This contributed considerably to the maintenance of satisfactory hygienic standards at these premises.

20. Recreation Grounds and Amenities.

The Open Spaces Committee has extended its programme of activities and has continued to provide recreational facilities throughout the District.

Details of recreational improvements have already been given in Section 1 of this Report.

Summary of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances Remedied

| | No. of inspections | No. of informal no- tices served | No. of statutory no- tices served | Defects remedied after notice |
|--|-----------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Food Hygiene Regulations: | | | | |
| Inspection of Food and | | | | |
| Food Premises | 525 | 3 | — | 3 |
| Unfit Food | 102 | — | — | — |
| Licensed Premises | 5 | — | — | — |
| Meat | 6 | — | — | — |
| Sampling | 10 | — | — | — |
| Mobile Shops | — | — | — | — |
| Public Health Acts: | | | | |
| Water supply | 7 | — | — | — |
| Disrepair | 278 | 22 | — | 22 |
| Refuse Collection | 563 | — | — | — |
| Insect Infestation | 458 | — | — | — |
| Defective Drainage | 29 | 15 | — | 15 |
| Infectious Diseases | 185 | — | — | — |
| Nuisances | 73 | — | — | — |
| Housing Acts | | | | |
| House Inspections... .. | 453 | 21 | — | 21 |
| Standard Grants | 243 | — | — | — |
| Improvement Grants | 204 | 183 | — | 183 |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act: | 230 | — | — | — |
| Clean Air Act | 996 | — | — | — |
| Factories Act | 2 | — | — | — |
| Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act | 31 | — | — | — |
| Animal Boarding Establishments Act | 3 | — | — | — |
| Civic Amenities Act | 92 | 3 | — | 3 |
| Totals | 4,478 | 247 | — | 43 |

(B) Inspection and Supervision of Food.

1. Milk and Milk Products.

Dairy Farms.

The supervision of milk production at the dairy farms in the District is undertaken by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Dairies.

Four dairies, used mainly as receiving depots, remained registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Distributors.

The County Council are responsible for the licensing and undertake milk sampling in respect of milk of special designation.

Milk Sampling.

The following table shows the results of milk sampling undertaken by the County Council.

| Class of Milk | Number taken | Appropriate Test | Number passed | Number failed |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Pasteurised | 70 | Methylene Blue | 85 | 6 |
| | | Phosphatase | 70 | — |
| Sterilised | 20 | Turbidity | 19 | — |
| U.H.T. | 8 | Turbidity | 8 | — |
| | | Plate Count | 8 | — |
| Untreated | 18 | Antibiotic | 21 | — |
| | | Methylene Blue | 20 | — |

Diseases from Milk.

No action became necessary under Regulation 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Ice Cream.

One establishment remained registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the manufacture of ice cream. The apparatus used in the manufacture of the product is of modern design which enables the occupier of the premises to comply fully with the requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1959-63.

2. Meat and Meat Products.

Meat.

A slaughterhouse licence, in respect of the one private slaughterhouse in the District, the layout, construction and equipment of which complied with the Slaughterhouse Regulations, was renewed under the Slaughterhouse Act, 1958.

There were no cattle slaughtered in the District during the year.

Three slaughterman licences were renewed under the Slaughter of Animal Act. 1958, for a further year.

Meat Products.

Canned meat found to be unsound and weighing a total of 863 lbs. was voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent its use for human consumption.

3. Poultry and Poultry Products.

There are no poultry processing premises in the District.

4. Other Foods.

The following other food products were found to be unsound, voluntarily surrendered and disposed of so as to prevent their use for human consumption.

| <i>Canned Foods</i> | | | | <i>Weight</i> |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------|
| Fruit | ... | ... | ... | 2,054 lbs. |
| Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 1,987 lbs. |
| Fish | ... | ... | ... | 85 lbs. |
| Other | ... | ... | ... | 946 lbs. |

The underlisted were condemned due to freezer breakdown:

| | | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Meat | ... | ... | ... | 135 lbs. |
| Fish | ... | ... | ... | 407 lbs. |
| Vegetables | ... | ... | ... | 170 lbs. |
| Other | ... | ... | ... | 121 lbs. |

Three articles of food, alleged by the purchasers to be not of the nature or substance or quality expected at the time of purchase, were brought to the notice of the Health Department. As and when necessary, liaison with the Food and Drugs Department of the Durham County Council was established to determine appropriate action required. Below is given a brief summary of the measures taken respecting these 3 articles.

| <i>Article of Food</i> | <i>Complaint</i> | <i>Remarks</i> |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 tin corned beef | foreign body | Letter of caution sent to vendor |
| 1 loaf bread | mouldy | do. |
| 1 packet bread buns | mouldy | do. |

5. Food Premises.

The following table summarises details of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, grouped in categories of trade carried on in them. It should be noted that, in many cases, other types of commodities are sold besides the principal trade:

| Type of Premises | Number | Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 | Number of Premises to which Reg. 19 applies | Number of Premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 |
|----------------------------|--------|--|---|--|
| Bakers... .. | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Ice Cream Manufacturer ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Catering Premises ... | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| Butchers | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Fish Shops:— | | | | |
| Fried Fish | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Wet Fish | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Grocers | 42 | 42 | 42 | 42 |
| Greengrocers | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| General Dealers | 56 | 56 | 56 | 56 |
| Confectioners (Sweets) ... | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Confectioners (Cakes) ... | 11 | 11 | 11 | 11 |
| Chemists | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Licensed Premises | 41 | 41 | 41 | 41 |
| Off Licensed Premises ... | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |

Inspections of all food premises, involving 225 visits and revisits, were made by the inspectorial staff under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, and any infringements found were forthwith brought to the notice of the persons concerned verbally or by the service of written informal notices.

The majority of traders, recognising their responsibilities and obligations to the general public, complied with the notices and a general improvement in food hygiene practices has been observed.

6. Food Sampling.

The Durham County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and enforces the sampling provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department has kindly furnished the following information.

List of Samples taken in the Blaydon Urban District during the year ended 31st December, 1972.

| | | |
|----------|---|---|
| | 2 | Beef Sausage |
| | 2 | Processed Peas |
| | 1 | Butter Beans |
| | 1 | Sliced Stringless Green Beans |
| | 1 | Golden Plums in Syrup |
| | 1 | Spaghetti Hoops in Tomato Sauce |
| | 1 | Tomatoe Sauce |
| Informal | 2 | Tomatoe Ketchup |
| | 1 | Treacle Tart |
| | 1 | Black Pudding |
| | 1 | Chocolate Sponge Mix |
| Informal | 1 | Beef Curry with Vegetables |
| | 1 | Pineapple Tit-bits in heavy Syrup |
| | 1 | Grapefruit Broken Segments in Syrup |
| | 1 | Natural Grapefruit Juice—containing 65% water |
| Informal | 4 | Natural Grapefruit Juice |
| | 1 | Unsweetened Grapefruit Juice |

| | | |
|----------|----|--------------------------------|
| | 1 | Whole Kernel Sweet Corn |
| | 1 | Sweet Corn |
| | 1 | Stewed Apple |
| | 1 | Ox Tongue |
| Informal | 1 | Peeled Tomatoes |
| Informal | 1 | Tripe and Onions in Milk Sauce |
| Informal | 1 | Chicken Mince Pie Filling |
| Informal | 1 | Home Brew Brown Ale |
| | 6 | Sterilised Milk |
| | 15 | Milk |
| Informal | 6 | Milk |
| | 1 | Extra Life Milk |
| | 1 | Ice Cream |
| Informal | 2 | Beef Pie |
| Informal | 3 | Steak and Kidney Pie |
| Informal | 1 | Mince and Onion Pies |
| Informal | 1 | Mince and Potatoe Pies |
| Informal | 1 | Piccalilli |
| | 2 | Orange Drink |
| | 1 | Low Calorie Lemon Drink |
| | 1 | Lemonade Shandy |
| | 1 | Ground Almonds |
| | 1 | Apricot Flavour Rice |
| | 1 | Desiccated Coconut |
| Informal | 1 | Baked Beans with Baconburgers |
| Informal | 1 | Mincemeat |
| | 1 | Prunes in Syrup |
| | 1 | Raisins |
| | 1 | Sultanas |
| | 1 | Tapioca |
| | 1 | Instant Coffee |
| | 1 | Fresh Garden Peas |
| | 1 | Low-fat Spread |
| | 1 | Lemon Jelly Marmalade |
| | 1 | Pure Honey |
| Informal | 1 | Mycil Powder |
| | 1 | Hiprex Tablets |
| | 1 | Kolanticon Wafers |
| | 1 | Kloref Tablets |
| | 1 | Lentizol Capsules |

(C) Housing.

The rehousing of occupants from unfit houses continued to receive high priority during the year, 7 families being moved to Council housing estates from houses subject to Orders confirmed under the Housing Act, 1957.

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

| | | |
|-----|--|-----|
| (a) | Number of houses demolished during the year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action | Nil |
| (b) | Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action | Nil |
| (c) | Number of houses closed but not demolished as a result of informal action | Nil |

Reconditioning and Repair.

Number of houses made fit during the year by procedure under the Housing Acts or Public Health Acts:

| | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (a) | As a result of informal action | 318 |
| (b) | By owners as a result of Statutory Notices | Nil |
| (c) | By Local Authority in default of owners | Nil |

Overcrowding.

An indication of the extent of overcrowding may be deduced from the figures shown below, supplied by the Housing Manager.

Number of Listed Applications for Council Houses

| Classification | Totals | Not Overcrowded | Overcrowded | % of Overcrowded Premises |
|---|--------|-----------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| Families occupying premises as tenants | 222 | 214 | 8 | 3.6% |
| Families occupying premises as sub-tenants | 130 | 116 | 14 | 10.8% |

Housing Applications from persons living in overcrowded conditions continued to be given special consideration by the Allocation Committee and helped to alleviate the problem.

House Construction.

During the year, 111 houses were constructed in the District. Of this total, 6 were erected by private developers and 105 by the Council. The Council's housing schemes are detailed below:

Local Authority Housing.

| Location | No. Constructed |
|--|-----------------|
| Axwell Park (Phase II) | 45 |
| Bleach Green Extension | 6 |
| Sherburn Tower Estate, Rowlands Gill ... | 54 |
| Total ... | 105 |

Sizes of Houses Built

| <i>Constructed</i> | <i>2 Bedroomed</i> | <i>3 Bedroomed</i> | <i>4 Bedroomed</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| By Local Authority | 26 | 79 | — | 105 |
| By Private Developers | — | 3 | 3 | 6 |

Number of Houses Erected and Occupied each year since 1956

| Built | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 | 1970 | 1971 | 1972 | Total |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| By Local Authority | 77 | 139 | 115 | 98 | 68 | 63 | 93 | 83 | 92 | 201 | 218 | 185 | 100 | 106 | 105 | 1,043 |
| By Private Enterprise | 62 | 144 | 36 | 108 | 158 | 170 | 254 | 213 | 248 | 90 | 107 | 105 | 75 | 56 | 8 | 1,384 |
| Totals | 139 | 283 | 151 | 206 | 226 | 233 | 347 | 296 | 340 | 291 | 325 | 290 | 175 | 162 | 113 | 2,977 |

Number of Habitable Houses in the District:

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Blaydon Ward | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,616 |
| Winlaton Ward | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4,089 |
| Rowlands Gill and High Spennard Ward | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2,830 |
| Chopwell Ward | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,870 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11,305 |

Housing Acts, 1969/71

During the year steady progress under the above Act was made towards the preservation, with the aid of Improvement Grants, of structurally sound houses still with a substantial life ahead of them.

The number of applications for Standard Improvement Grants during the year was, 448 being an increase of 115 over last year's figure of 333.

Details of work carried out in connection with Standard Improvement Grants are as follows:—

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------|-----|
| 1. | Number of Applications approved: | | | | | | |
| | (a) Owner-Occupiers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 401 |
| | (b) Tenanted Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47 |
| 2. | Number of Dwellings improved: | | | | | | |
| | (a) Owner-Occupiers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 268 |
| | (b) Tenanted Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| 3. | Amount Paid in Grants | ... | ... | ... | ... | £135,848.00p. | |
| 4. | Average Grant per house | ... | ... | ... | ... | £335.40p. | |
| 5. | Number of amenities provided: | | | | | | |
| | (a) Fixed bath or shower | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 355 |
| | (b) Wash-hand basins | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 352 |
| | (c) Sinks | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 350 |
| | (d) Hot water supplies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 350 |
| | (e) Water closets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 401 |
| 6. | Details of Standard Improvement Grants since inception of Scheme in 1959: | | | | | | |
| | (a) Number of Applications received | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,866 | |
| | (b) Number of Applications approved | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,858 | |
| | (c) Number of dwelling-houses improved under Scheme | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,374 | |
| | (d) Total amount paid in Grants | ... | ... | ... | ... | £318,794.00p | |

VI.

APPENDIX

Factories Act, 1971

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1971 for the Urban District of Blaydon in the County of Durham

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961.

Part I of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written notices | Occupiers prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 9 | 5 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 137 | 12 | — | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority excluding outworkers premises | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 146 | 17 | — | — |

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspector | By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S 1)... .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S 2) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S 3)... .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S 4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S 7): | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 1 | 1 | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 3 | 3 | — | — | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 4 | 4 | — | — | — |

Outworkers.

There are no outworkers employed in the District.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

JOHN A. DRYDEN, M.A., B.Sc., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H., D.I.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

WILSON JOYCE, Cert. R.S.I. and S.I.E. Joint Board.
Cert. R.S.I. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

EDWARD RIDLEY, Cert. Public Health Inspectors Joint Board.
Cert. R.S.H. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.

ROBERT GRAY, Diploma of P.H.I.E.B.
Cert. R.S.H. Smoke Inspector.
Testamur of Institute of Public Cleansing.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

NORMAN REYNOLDS, qualified June 1972—Diploma P.H.I.E.B. (resigned 19th August, 1972).

NEIL HODGSON (commenced duties 4th September, 1972).

DEPARTMENTAL CLERKS

MRS. VERA TELFER (Senior Clerk).
MRS. HAZEL YOUNG (General Clerk).

CORRIGENDA.

- Page 10. In table, Correct B19 (16) to B19 (6)
- Pages 11/13 Numbering of pages 11,12, and 13 have been omitted.
- Page 13 Instead of "Live Births" at left hand of table, read "Rate per 1000 Live Births".
- Page 15 Section (3) Spelling error in "Total Attendances".
Section (4) End of text is not end of sentence or paragraph, which continues on page 16.
- Page 20 "Chiropody Service".
Chiropody wrongly spelt in second line.

